

Application Serial No.: 09/321,743

Attorney Docket No. 067220-0312883 (23453-009)

In Response to Office Action mailed November 17, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. *(Previously Presented)* A system for enabling users connected to an on-line analytical processing (OLAP) system over a network to select formatting options for reports for processing by the OLAP system, comprising:

report requesting means for enabling a user to select a workbook comprising one or more reports to be requested for processing by the OLAP system; and

format specification means for enabling the user to select the format for each report in the workbook.

2. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 1 wherein the format specification means enables the user to specify multiple levels of formats to be applied to the reports in the workbook.

3. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 2 wherein the multiple levels of formats are applied in a hierarchical manner so that lower level formats supersede higher level formats.

4. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 3 wherein the levels of formats comprise global formats, report formats, attribute/element/metric formats, and value formats in that hierarchical order.

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5. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 1 wherein the format of one of the workbooks comprises a merged report format.

6. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 1 wherein the format of one of the reports comprises a combined grid and graph.

7. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 1 wherein the format comprises rules to be applied to the report that the user may specify.

8. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 1 wherein the format of a report comprises an autoformat that enables each recipient of the report to specify the format in which that recipient views the report when the report is received.

9. *(Previously Presented)* The system of claim 1 wherein the format of a report comprises a scripted format created by a user for specialized formatting of the report.

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10. ***(Previously Presented)*** A method for enabling users connected to an on-line analytical processing (OLAP) system over a network to select formatting options for reports requested for processing by the OLAP system, the method comprising the steps of:

enabling a user to select a workbook comprising one or more reports to be requested for processing by the OLAP system; and

enabling the user to select the format for each report in the workbook.

11. ***(original)*** The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of enabling the user to specify multiple levels of formats to be applied to the reports in the workbook.

12. ***(Previously Presented)*** The method of claim 11 wherein the multiple levels of formats are to be applied in a hierarchical manner so that lower level formats supersede higher level formats.

13. ***(original)*** The method of claim 12 wherein the levels of formats comprise global formats, report formats, attribute/element/metric formats, and value formats in that hierarchical order.

14. ***(original)*** The method of claim 10 wherein the format of one of the workbooks comprises a merged report format.

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15. **(original)** The method of claim 10 wherein the format of one of the reports comprises a combined grid and graph.

16. **(original)** The method of claim 10 wherein the format comprises rules to be applied to the report that the user may specify.

17. **(original)** The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of enabling the user to specify the format of a report to be an autoformat that enables each recipient of the report to specify the format in which that recipient views the report when the report is received.

18. **(Previously Presented)** An electronic storage medium having code embodied therein for causing a processing system to enable users connected to an on-line analytical processing (OLAP) over a network to specify formatting options for reports requested for processing by the OLAP system, the medium comprising:

code for causing a processor to enable a user to select a workbook comprising one or more reports to be requested for processing by the OLAP system; and

code for causing a processor to enable a user to select the format for each report in the workbook.

19. **(original)** The medium of claim 18 further comprising code for causing a processor to enable the user to specify multiple levels of formats to be applied to the reports in the workbook.

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20. ***(Previously Presented)*** The medium of claim 19 wherein the multiple levels of formats are to be applied in a hierarchical manner so that lower level formats supersede higher level formats.
21. ***(original)*** The medium of claim 18 further comprising code for causing a processor to select a merged report format.
22. ***(original)*** The medium of claim 18 further comprising code for causing a processor to enable a user to select the format of a report to include a combined grid and graph.
23. ***(original)*** The medium of claim 18 further comprising code for causing a processor to enable a user to select the format of a report to be an autoformat that enables each recipient of the report to specify the format in which that recipient views the report when the report is received.

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24. *(Previously Presented)* A system for enabling users connected to an on-line analytical processing (OLAP) system over a network to select formatting options for reports for processing by the OLAP system, comprising:

report requesting means for enabling a user to select a workbook for processing by the OLAP system, wherein the workbook comprises a plurality of reports;

format specification means for enabling the user to select a format for each of the plurality of reports comprising the workbook; and

processing means for processing the plurality of reports asynchronously.